



ICEC Board Members

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August 2016

From Co-chair Linda: What's New with ICEC!

The ICEC board has been updating the bylaws and sent for review by the Drake Transactional and Nonprofits Legal Clinic. Watch for the bylaws to be sent to members in October this year with another email to vote on approval 30 days later!

We also reviewed the articles of incorporation. As we head into the new science standards and current trends in education we are going back to the original purpose of ICEC. ***“Promote and support conservation education and environmental education Iowa.”*** This statement really covers what ICEC set out to do historically.

Call for Nominations

ICEC has a potential leadership opportunity! We are looking for new executive committee (ExCom) members! The mission of ICEC creates an opportunity for future ExCom members to really grow professionally in the field of conservation and environmental education in Iowa. ICEC's future is bright, become a board member and make a difference! The potential for personal growth in this

Conservation Board

**Martha Tushaus
McCormick**
*Next Step
Adventure*

field is tremendous. [Email Linette](#) if you interested in joining ExCom! Nomination forms are due by 25 October 2016. Candidate statements will be in the November 2016 Pathways newsletter, with voting to happen in December! Stay tuned.

Why is ICEC important?

- ICEC holds a seat on the REAP-CEP board
- Educators are still excited about Project Wild and Growing Up Wild
- Facilitating workshops with the new science education standards will again encourage educators and professional natural resources to interact again.
- Networking with other professional natural resources personnel.

WILD / KinderNature REAP-CEP Grant

Project Wild / Aquatic WILD, Growing Up Wild, and KinderNature are going strong. Barb Gigar, Iowa DNR, has reported that from January 2015 through July 2016 369 educators and pre-service educators have attended WILD / Aquatic WILD workshops. 301 people have attended a Growing Up WILD workshop in the same time frame. We have met with Iowa DNR Wildlife, Fisheries, Parks, and Forestry staff and are still discussing the future of these projects. The current grant will wrap up by April 2017. Linette and Barb are streamlining training documents and resources and are working diligently to get these documents ready for the website!

Photos needed!

ICEC is working on a project and we need photos of members engaging in conservation / environmental education activities (i.e. from your work)! Photos need to be 1000 pixels wide by 500 pixels high. Please make sure that if people are identifiable in the picture that you have permission

to use that picture online and in print! Have something? [Email photos to us!](#)

Winter Workshop 2017

This year's winter workshop is a bit different. ICEC is in the midst of hosting ten work sessions with AEA Science consultants, naturalists, and teachers to redesign programs commonly offered to naturalists to meet the new science standards. These programs will be presented during Winter Workshop February 4 & 5, 2017. More details, including registration, coming soon for WW 2017!

Partners

ICEC is also reaching out to many of the state natural resources agencies to become involved as advisors to the board. We have focused on networking in the past and look forward to reaching out to NRCS, IDALS, DNR, AEA, ISU Extension and Outreach, and others.

Change

ICEC will be looking for a new Executive Director. Linette Bernard is stepping down as our executive director. An appropriate work / life balance has been lacking for her and is one of those things you have to put first in your life and she needs to do that. She has really made a difference at looking at the organizational makeup of ICEC. She knows the interworking of bylaws, procedures, and websites. She really has made a huge difference in the internal structure of ICEC. We wish her the best!!!

The ExCom is looking at potential changes to this position. More details coming soon.

Regional Workdays and Winter Workshop 2017

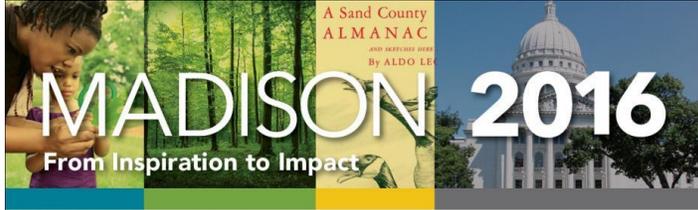
This summer, ICEC has sponsored workdays in each of the nine AEA regions to align and redesign environmental education (EE) programs to better support the new Iowa Core Science Standards. Targeted programs will be those that are common to many EE programs serving K-12 schools. Each team, consisting of both formal and non-formal educators and an AEA Science Consultant has / will focus on program offerings for a specific grade level. As of this newsletter only three workdays remain.

Winter Workshop 2017 will showcase the products of the workdays and will continue with the work of aligning EE with the science standards. As in past years, the workshop will also foster networking between diverse participants as they learn together about research on a current environmental topic. This year the topic will be pollinators / monarchs. We will continue to promote networking by encouraging non-education professionals to attend along with educators. Even environmental educators who work exclusively with adults will benefit from the workshop by considering how they might use aspects of the new science standards (Science and Engineering Practices and Crosscutting Concepts) to increase the effectiveness of their efforts. This workshop will return to its traditional Friday-Saturday time frame to encourage greater teacher attendance. ICEC was fortunate to receive a Resource Enhancement and Protection Conservation Education Program grant to support the summer and winter events!

Winter Workshop 2017 is planned for 3-4 February 2017 at Springbrook Conservation Education Center, Guthrie Center, Iowa. Watch for details at iowaee.org



NAAEE Conference early bird registration ends 31 August 2016!



A Sand County
ALMANAC
AND SEVERAL OTHERS
By ALDO LEOPOLD

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Opportunities and Resources

Friends of Reservoirs Youth Ambassador Challenge - The Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership has a new program in the works to engage high school youth in developing innovative solutions to reservoir habitat management. It's called the "Friends of Reservoirs" Youth Ambassador Program. The Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership (RFHP) is a nonprofit organization under the federally-funded [National Fish Habitat Partnership](#) and seeks to establish grassroots conservation efforts in reservoirs across the nation. The RFHP's fundraising/outreach arm is called

Friends of Reservoirs (FOR).

The Youth Ambassador Program is an innovative habitat youth program and contest to raise awareness of the importance of healthy reservoir ecosystems in the United States that the FOR is wanting to implement during the next year.

- Who: A community group, such as an angler group, lake association, or teachers, will coordinate the program in a local area. They would target local youth, such as Boy Scouts, 4H, or a school group (possibly extra-curricular).
- What: The group will engage youth to learn about their local reservoir's habitat issues, reservoir ecology and ecosystem health in general and then develop innovative solutions to improving their local reservoir, including background research, hypothesis development, solution testing, and revision of ideas. They will have assistance from the state natural resource agency (Iowa DNR) and FOR in this effort.
- When: A pilot program will be started with existing partners in New Mexico in 2017. After this pilot program is vetted, FOR will be looking for new locations to start the program, and why not get it going in Iowa. Iowa has excellent lake restoration projects going across the state, an engaged biologist to help coordinate (Rebecca Krogman), and excellent educators and angler groups.

FOR needs assistance developing educational materials for the program that meet the Iowa Core Science Standards. As FOR is in the early stages of developing the Youth Ambassador Program, they are very flexible and open to input from educators like you, who can make the program a success. If you are an angler, conservationist, or if

you love boating and fishing at one of our beautiful state's reservoirs, even better! Friends of Reservoirs hopes to get more fish habitat projects going in Iowa, and your help is the key. Questions and inquiry can be directed to [Rebecca Krogman](#), Large Impoundments Research Biologist with the Iowa DNR.

Check out the [July Natural Start newsletter](#) for great resources for outdoor time with preschool age children

Know a student taking early childhood coursework? The **National Association for the Education of Young Children** offers students with a valid .edu email address receive standard [NAEYC](#) benefits at a discounted rate.

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children Fall Institute is scheduled for September 30 and October 1 at Prairie Meadows Events and Conference Center in Altoona. Registration materials are [available here](#). Department of Human Services training credit is provided and many of the workshops also qualify toward the National Administrator's Credential (NAC). ICEC will be in the vendor area promoting the KinderNature.org website!

SE Iowa STEM Region Seeks Innovative Proposals! - Organizations eligible to apply for the Southeast STEM Innovation Fund are Iowa's public and private educational institutions, home school associations, and Iowa-registered nonprofit organizations in the 17 counties in Southeast Iowa (Benton, Cedar, Clinton, Des Moines, Henry, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Keokuk, Lee, Linn, Louisa, Muscatine, Scott, Van Buren, Wapello, and Washington). [More information about the proposal application as well as details about eligible projects can be found here.](#)

The **Iowa Environmental Council's annual conference** is scheduled for Thursday 6 October at the DMACC Ankeny Campus. [Registration details can be found on their website.](#)

Check out the [National Science Teachers Association Freebies for Science Teachers!](#)

Check out this [post from the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation](#) and learn how funding the Iowa Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund will benefit all Iowans!

The Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (ICEC) is a 501(c)3 Iowa non-profit first organized in 1958! *Our primary purpose is to promote and support conservation education and environmental education in Iowa and in so doing to stimulate a closer cooperation among agencies, institutions, and individuals interested in conservation.*

ICEC needs you! Join or renew your membership today. Memberships expire on December 31, with a month grace period. Your membership supports excellence in conservation education through networking with formal and non-formal educators and their support services, and conservation professionals!

Remember to visit the [ICEC Facebook page](#), like it, and share it! From time to time, I try to post interesting and pertinent information and would appreciate feedback on those posts! The more you comment on a page's post, the more that page will show in your news feed!

Sincerely,

Linette Bernard

Executive Director

Iowa Conservation Education Coalition

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